

South Dakota Legislature

State Capitol, 500 East Capitol, Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070

House of Representatives

January 28, 2002

Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division
US Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse:

My legislative district is home to or borders on the Yankton Sioux Tribe, the Crow Creek Reservation and the Lower Brule Reservation, as well as non-Indian school districts where you will find low-income families and stressed financial resources for schools. The people in my district are quite diverse, not only in race, but also in terms of ethnic heritage, faith and occupation.

One cause we all agree on is the fact that a quality education will do more to equalize opportunity for children than anything else. For this reason, I am looking forward to the settlement in U.S. v. Microsoft. The installation of up-to-date computers and systems in low income school districts will allow disadvantaged children equal access to the wonderful learning tools found in the internet.

I also support the settlement because the antitrust case has fully lived its usefulness to addressing the legal questions involved. It is doubtful that extending this case beyond it's 4-year-old lifespan is going to be productive. I hope this settlement will be enacted so that everyone concerned may benefit. Thank you for your attention to my letter.

Sincerely,

State Representative

Legislative District 25